

RECOGNIZING THE AMERICAN AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION'S STARS OF LIFE

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the American Ambulance Association's "Stars of Life" recipients from Arkansas. I am proud to recognize these noble Americans who are always there to help those in need.

The emergency medical technicians, paramedics, dispatchers, and other ambulance service providers deserve applause and appreciation for their commitment and selflessness. The "Stars of Life" program celebrates the dedication, service, and heroism of ambulance professionals who have gone beyond the call of duty on behalf of their communities and the emergency medical services profession. This initiative honors them and their significant contributions, while also raising awareness of the vital role EMS personnel play in our society and healthcare infrastructure.

I am especially proud of the six "Stars of Life" from Arkansas: Devin Holland, Kenneth Jenkins, Randy Murry, Amanda Nesbitt, Alvin Short, and Benny Ford.

Each of these individuals has devoted themselves to serving others by providing vital 9-1-1 emergency care in their communities. These dedicated public servants have used their skills and training for the good of others, both on duty and off duty. They exemplify the mission of their profession and consistently promote public health and safety.

Our State's recipients, like those throughout the country, were nominated for this honor by their peers and administrators because of their selflessness, commitment to the job, positive influence, and "service before self" philosophy. Their work ethic and service are described as contagious and commendable. Thousands of lives have been touched and even saved by these Stars of Life. Their work continues to better communities nationwide and impact emergency medical services positively.

I am so grateful for these Arkansans, whose dedication to their communities is admirable as they make an unquestionable difference in the lives of those around them. They are an amazing example of heroism and service in action, and Natural State residents are blessed to have their help in a time of need.

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD BRYAN

Ms. ROSEN. Mr. President, I am honored and humbled to congratulate former Nevada Governor and U.S. Senator Richard Bryan on his retirement last month from Fennemore Craig. A dedicated public servant and champion for Nevada, Senator Bryan spent over half a century advocating for others, serving in just about every position in government, from the Nevada Senate to the Governor's mansion to the U.S. Senate. Throughout his extensive and

storied career, Senator Bryan always put Nevadans first. As the person with the privilege to serve in his Senate seat today, I think frequently about Senator Bryan's steady, unwavering leadership, and his pragmatic approach to addressing issues that mattered most to the people of Nevada.

To note only a few of Senator Bryan's incredible accomplishments would be a disservice to his long history of achievements for the public good, but I will do my best. As a young man, Senator Bryan served his country in the U.S. Army, the Las Vegas community as a prosecutor, and later Clark County as its first—and youngest—public defender. Young Richard Bryan showed Nevada's youth that anything is possible when you are dedicated and determined. Later, he served as Nevada's 27th attorney general, and as Governor of Nevada, Senator Bryan helped shape our State during a pivotal time in its history, helping Nevada attract the best and brightest, inviting businesses of all different sectors and sizes, to call Nevada home.

As a U.S. Senator for two terms, Senator Bryan never stopped fighting to protect Nevada's natural beauty. He stood up for policies that safeguarded our public lands, leading the charge for passage of the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act of 1998, which to this day makes land and resources available for various public purposes to better the communities in our State. I also want to recognize Senator Bryan and the late Senator Harry Reid for being the leading voices in the fight against Yucca Mountain, standing up for Nevadans and against our State becoming the Nation's nuclear dumping ground. During his time in the Senate, Senator Bryan also worked tirelessly to advance civil rights, empower women in government, make our roads safer, and protect consumers from fraud. As a senior member of the Senate Commerce Committee, Senator Bryan was the lead sponsor of seven consumer protection and highway safety bills that passed the Senate. And as chair of the Senate Ethics Committee, Senator Bryan demonstrated his commitment to the notion that public servants should fight for the interests of their constituents, not their own interests.

Senator Bryan has been beloved his entire career—by his staff, by his constituents, and by his late wife Bonnie, who was the light of his life and stood by his side throughout Senator Bryan's public life, serving Nevada with poise and grace. Those who worked for Senator Bryan remember him as the kind of boss who made everyone feel like an integral part of the team, from the chief of staff, down to new interns. That is why they have stayed close with one another and with him ever since Senator Bryan left the Senate in 2000.

Nevadans will forever be indebted to Senator Richard Bryan for his many selfless years of public service. I, per-

sonally, will always be grateful to Senator Bryan for his care, his compassion, and his kindness, particularly when I first joined the Senate to restore the Richard Bryan seat to a Democrat for the first time since he held it. I will never forget Senator Bryan walking me down the center aisle of the Senate Chamber, arm-in-arm, as I was sworn in to represent the people of Nevada, just as he had done decades earlier. I know I am a better Senator because of Senator Richard Bryan, I know we as a State and a nation are better off for his tremendous efforts, and I wish him all the best as he enters a well-deserved retirement.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO DAN CNOSSEN

● Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, last week, leaders across Washington have gathered to celebrate our Team USA Olympic and Paralympic athletes during the 2022 Winter Games. In that spirit, today, I want to both recognize and congratulate Lieutenant Commander and Kansan Dan Cnossen on his recent gold medal victory for the United States in the mixed relay cross-country event at the 2022 Paralympic Winter Games.

While this accomplishment itself is worthy of our praise, it is Dan's journey leading up to this remarkable achievement that renders this feat all the more outstanding and commendable.

A fifth-generation Kansas farm kid and graduate of Shawnee Heights High School in Tecumseh, Dan attended the U.S. Naval Academy, completing the rigorous and physically excruciating BUD/S program to commission as a Navy SEAL. He reached the rank of lieutenant commander and was serving as a platoon commander for Seal Team ONE in Afghanistan where his life was forever changed as a result of his service to our Nation.

In September of 2009, Lieutenant Commander Cnossen was severely injured when he stepped on an IED in Kandahar, Afghanistan. He was 29 years old. He woke up 8 days later to learn that both of his legs had been amputated just above the knee.

Imagine that. Imagine waking up back in the U.S. to realize the life you always knew and the future you had envisioned had changed forever. Imagine being one of the most physically and mentally advanced soldiers, only to have that change in an instant—because of one single step.

Despite the extent of his injuries and though his life had changed forever, Dan did not give up. Or, as his fellow SEALs would say, he never "rang the bell." Dan relearned how to walk with new and unfamiliar prosthetic legs and attacked every opportunity in life with vigor and determination. But the road was long, and it was never steady. Not giving up was a choice that had to be made each moment of each day.